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Security Council

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Letter dated 20 August 2002 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached letter from the Permanent Representative of Belarus to the United Nations (see annex), forwarding a letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus addressed to the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Committee.

I would be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jeremy **Greenstock**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

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Annex

Letter dated 9 August 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Belarus to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter of Mikhail Khvostov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, addressed to you on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001 concerning counter-terrorism (see enclosure).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its enclosure would be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sergei **Ling**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Enclosure

Letter dated 26 July from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

[Original: Russian]

I have the honour to write to you on the eve of the first anniversary of the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and the establishment of the Counter-Terrorism Committee.

This measure, taken by the Security Council in response to the unprecedented acts of international terrorism of 11 September 2001, marked a new and important stage in the work of the United Nations system. For the first time in history, systematic efforts to create a global counter-terrorism mechanism are under way, with positive results. The Republic of Belarus was quick to support these efforts. His Excellency Mr. Aleksandr Lukashenko, President of the Republic of Belarus, had already stressed the Republic's support for the provisions of the resolution in the days immediately following its adoption.

The Republic of Belarus has always purposefully adopted measures to combat international terrorism. The President and Government of the Republic of Belarus are doing their utmost to establish a reliable infrastructure for combating international terrorism and related criminal activities, including transnational organized crime, illicit drug-trafficking, money-laundering, illicit migration and illegal trafficking in arms and unlawful transport of nuclear, chemical, biological and other potentially lethal materials.

The past year has seen considerable intensification of efforts in this direction. Currently, Belarus is party to nine of the 12 main international multilateral treaties on counter-terrorism.

Internal procedures for accession to the three remaining universal international legal instruments are being finalized. Thus, on 21 June 2002, the Republic of Belarus ratified the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation of 10 March 1988 and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf of 10 March 1988. Efforts are also under way to ratify the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism of 9 December 1999.

The resolution's adoption served to accelerate the elaboration and adoption by the Republic of Belarus of the Act "On counter-terrorism" of 3 January 2002. As part of international efforts to combat the financing of terrorist activities, the National Bank of Belarus adopted Decision No. 10 of 28 January 2002 on the suspension of credit and debit transactions in respect of accounts belonging to terrorists, terrorist organizations and persons associated with them. Questions relating to counter-terrorism fall under the permanent oversight of the President, Government and Security Council of Belarus.

The results of the large-scale work undertaken by the Counter-Terrorism Committee over the past year must, we feel, create the basis for new, significant steps. Belarus sees such work as leading above all to the establishment of universal model legislation and practice in the field of counter-terrorism. We trust that in this regard Belarus, as a country with a transitional economy, will manage to attract financial assistance and material and technical support to develop anti-terrorist infrastructure with the Committee's direct support. Belarus has submitted proposals in that connection for consideration by the Committee.

I wish to assure you that the Government of the Republic of Belarus will do its utmost to continue to support and encourage the important and effective work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee.

[*Signed*] Mikhail **Khvostov**